



*Broadband Public Policy Update | July 30, 2010*

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## **I. Congressional Updates**

On July 27, 2010, the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation Chairman Rockefeller remarked on consumer online privacy. [http://commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=PressReleases&ContentRecord\\_id=5460fceb-5ff4-4982-a905826cc88145dc&ContentType\\_id=77eb43da-aa94-497d-a73f-5c951ff72372&Group\\_id=4b968841-f3e8-49da-a529-7b18e32fd69d](http://commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=PressReleases&ContentRecord_id=5460fceb-5ff4-4982-a905826cc88145dc&ContentType_id=77eb43da-aa94-497d-a73f-5c951ff72372&Group_id=4b968841-f3e8-49da-a529-7b18e32fd69d)

On July 27, 2010, the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation held a full committee hearing on consumer online privacy. A full list of witnesses and quotations from the hearing are available. [http://commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=PressReleases&ContentRecord\\_id=4c76855f-f8b9-406f-a04224f30741d58a&ContentType\\_id=77eb43da-aa94-497d-a73f-5c951ff72372&Group\\_id=4b968841-f3e8-49da-a529-7b18e32fd69d](http://commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=PressReleases&ContentRecord_id=4c76855f-f8b9-406f-a04224f30741d58a&ContentType_id=77eb43da-aa94-497d-a73f-5c951ff72372&Group_id=4b968841-f3e8-49da-a529-7b18e32fd69d)

On July 30, 2010, the Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) announced a nearly \$9 million American Recovery and Reinvestment Act investment to help bridge the technological divide and increase economic opportunities in Illinois. The investment will expand and upgrade public computer centers in locations throughout Chicago and provide technology and job assistance training to residents, with a focus on at-risk youth, senior citizens, people with disabilities, and the unemployed.

News release:

[http://www.ntia.doc.gov/press/2010/BTOP\\_Chicago\\_PCC\\_07302010.html](http://www.ntia.doc.gov/press/2010/BTOP_Chicago_PCC_07302010.html)

Project Fact Sheet:

<http://www2.ntia.doc.gov/files/grantees/cityofchicago.pdf>

## **II. Federal Agency News and Proceedings**

### **A. Department of Commerce**

On July 27, 2010, U.S. Department of Commerce hosted a full-day public symposium devoted to protecting the information of consumers and the commercial sector from increasingly sophisticated cyber threats. The meeting is part of a broader effort to use the internet to foster innovation and economic growth. Organized by the Commerce Department's Internet Policy Task Force, the event featured senior government and private-sector leaders in a wide-ranging discussion of issues, best practices, and strategies for responding to cyber threats.

<http://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2010/07/27/secretary-locke-highlights-efforts-bolster-cyber-security-commercial->

## B. Department of Energy

On July 27, 2010, at a White House Forum on Energy Security, U.S. Deputy Secretary of Energy Daniel Poneman announced a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Department of Defense to accelerate clean energy innovation and enhance national energy security.

<http://www.energy.gov/news/9278.htm>

## C. Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

On July 26, 2010, moving forward on recommendations from the National Broadband Plan sent to Congress in March, the leaders of FCC and FDA announced a joint effort to help the nation realize the promise that broadband and wireless-enabled medical devices hold for health care in America, while protecting consumer safety.

[http://www.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2010/db0726/DOC-300226A1.pdf](http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2010/db0726/DOC-300226A1.pdf)

On July 26, 2010, the FCC's Enforcement Bureau released a Consent Decree entered into with Univision Radio, Inc. to resolve allegations that Univision radio stations or their employees secretly accepted payment from a record label in exchange for the radio stations giving more frequent airplay to the label's artists, without making the disclosures to listeners required by section 507 of the Communications Act. In a companion criminal action, a federal district court has accepted the plea of Univision Services, Inc. to charges filed by the U.S. Department of Justice ("DOJ"), based on the same facts. The FCC and the DOJ coordinated their respective investigations and enforcement actions.

[http://www.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2010/db0726/DOC-300325A1.pdf](http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2010/db0726/DOC-300325A1.pdf)

On July 27, 2010, FCC launched a consumer help center. The new portal launched at [www.fcc.gov/consumers](http://www.fcc.gov/consumers) will allow consumers to learn about different issues in telecommunications, make it easy for consumers to find out what's going on at the FCC, get tips for making the best choices in purchasing communications devices and services, have their voices heard by filing comments on issues that interest them, and file a complaint when there are problems.

[http://www.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2010/db0727/DOC-300333A1.pdf](http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2010/db0727/DOC-300333A1.pdf)

On July 27, 2010, FCC Chairman Genachowski made a statement before U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation on consumer privacy.

[http://www.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2010/db0727/DOC-300342A1.pdf](http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2010/db0727/DOC-300342A1.pdf)

On July 28, 2010, the FCC Commission announced that it seeks comment on the proposed rules to implement the Satellite Television Extension and Localism Act of 2010.

[http://www.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2010/db0728/FCC-10-133A1.pdf](http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2010/db0728/FCC-10-133A1.pdf)

On July 29, 2010, the FCC announced that it will hold an Open Commission Meeting on Thursday, August 5, 2010 which is scheduled to commence at 10:30 a.m. in Room TW-C305, at 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C.

[http://www.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2010/db0729/DOC-300585A1.pdf](http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2010/db0729/DOC-300585A1.pdf)

On July 30, 2010, FCC announced that Zac Katz will succeed Priya Aiyar as Legal Advisor to Chairman Genachowski.

[http://www.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2010/db0730/DOC-300626A1.pdf](http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2010/db0730/DOC-300626A1.pdf)

### **III. Related News**

- A. FCC, Public Safety Groups Clash Over Broadband Plan  
*HS Today-July 28, 2010*

First responders argue for direct control over public safety spectrum instead of auction.

<http://www.hstoday.us/content/view/14133/149/>

- B. Vt. Broadband Internet Access: Where is it?  
*The Washington Post-July 25, 2010*

Despite promises for years by state officials and phone and cable companies that they would have broadband by 2010, they're still waiting. Now Vermont is in the heat of a gubernatorial campaign, and the candidates are making a new round of promises about broadband and fixing Vermont's spotty cellular phone coverage.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wpdyn/content/article/2010/07/25/AR2010072501023.html>

- C. Dingle Opposes Broadband Reclassification  
*BroadbandBreakfast.com-July 30, 2010*

In a letter to the Federal Communications Commission Rep John Dingell (D-MI) said that the chairman should abandon his effort to reclassify broadband. In a response chairman Genachowski said that while he looks forward to

working with Congress to an update the communications act key feels that these actions need to occur quickly and cannot wait for Congress to complete its deliberation.

<http://broadbandbreakfast.com/2010/07/dingle-opposes-broadband-reclassification/>

D. FCC Cautioned On D-Block Spectrum Auction  
*Tech Daily Dose-July27, 2010*

A key lawmaker and senior Homeland Security official said Tuesday that the FCC should not go forward with selling commercial firms access to communications spectrum needed by public safety organizations until key technical and legal issues are resolved, *CongressDaily* reported.

<http://techdailydose.nationaljournal.com/2010/07/fcc-cautioned-on-dblock-spectr.php>

E. Bipartisan bill would block FCC from seizing spectrum  
*Nextgov.com-July 30, 2010*

Leaders of the House Energy and Commerce Communications Subcommittee unveiled a bipartisan bill Thursday that seeks to free up more airwaves for commercial wireless services without forcing TV broadcasters to relinquish spectrum.

[http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng\\_20100730\\_4887.php?oref=topnews](http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20100730_4887.php?oref=topnews)

F. EHSI: USDA Begins Power of Telemedicine Public Discussion Effort  
*Business Wire, July 26, 2010*

Emerging Healthcare Solutions, Inc. (Pink Sheets:EHSI). Agriculture Under Secretary for Rural Development Dallas Tonsager announced late last week that the USDA will facilitate a virtual public discussion in the field of telemedicine. "The Power of Telemedicine" web discussion is an extension of the USDA's Open Government effort and Rural Development's latest effort to encourage a more widespread use and understanding of telemedicine.

[http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/home/permalink/?ndmViewId=news\\_view&newsId=20100726005478&newsLang=en](http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/home/permalink/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20100726005478&newsLang=en)

#### **IV. State of Alabama News**

- A. Congress Rethinks Its Ban on Internet Gambling  
*NDTV-July 29, 2010*

With pressure mounting on the federal government to find new revenues, Congress is considering legalizing, and taxing, an activity it banned just four years ago: Internet gambling.

<http://www.ndtv.com/article/technology/congress-rethinks-its-ban-on-internet-gambling-40731>